

Title: EMS Environmental Emergency Response Plan (GNF)

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Gallatin National Forest

EMS Environmental Emergency Response Plan

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

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INTRODUCTION

An Environmental Management System (EMS) was developed for the Forests and Grasslands of Region 1 that is compliant with the ISO 14001 International Standard. The intention of the EMS is to enable the Forests to identify important activities, products, and services with environmental interactions, and consistently provide environmental protection measures as well as achieve objectives for environmental performance. Element 4.4.7 of the ISO standards contains requirements for the creation of an EMS Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.

Purpose

This plan outlines procedures for emergency awareness, preparation, and response with the purpose of preventing, minimizing and/or mitigating ***environmental impacts***. The procedures listed provide a framework for proper response to emergency situations that occur and may have environmental impacts. The EMS Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan should be synchronized with the procedures of the Forest emergency plan that is created to focus on human safety and health.

Scope

This plan applies to emergency situations that could have significant environmental impacts to resources found on the Forests. Spills or discoveries of hazardous materials, and wildland fires are emergencies for which employees may lessen, mitigate, or prevent undesired environmental effects by taking prompt action as described in this plan.

The procedures outlined in this plan apply to activities conducted by Forest Service employees and volunteers, working for the Forests and Grasslands of Region One. Contractors and permittees follow emergency procedures as they are identified in the contract or permit, as appropriate.

EMERGENCY SPILLS/DISCOVERY

Definitions:

Hazardous Material – An umbrella term that includes hazardous chemicals, hazardous wastes, hazardous substances and petroleum products.

Emergency Hazardous Material Spill

Spills on Land: –For the purpose of this Emergency Response Plan, an emergency spill is defined as any release (spilling, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment) of a hazardous material or petroleum product in amounts greater than normal consumer quantities. For **petroleum products**, the emergency quantity is considered to be **more than 25 gallons**. For **pesticide products**, the emergency quantity is considered to be **more than 5 gallons concentrated or mixed**.

Spills on water: - All chemical and petroleum product spills that have entered or threaten to enter water bodies are an emergency spill and must be reported. A sheen on water caused by a spill would constitute an emergency.

Discovery – Locating an unknown substance of either unknown origin or unknown quantities, or both.

Example 1: A container, pail, or drum containing an unknown substance.

Example 2: An assortment of mixed small containers, labeled or unlabeled, that appear to have been used in a METH Lab.

Roles and Responsibilities

The responsibility of the employee(s) in the field is limited to collecting appropriate information when encountering an ***Emergency Hazardous Material Spill or Discovery***, as defined above, and relaying it to dispatch immediately. If an employee does not know the emergency amount, then s/he should report it to Dispatch. Following is a list of the information that should be collected, if possible ("SPILL/DISCOVERY INFORMATION FORM"). However, it is more important to maintain personal safety and report in a timely manner than to collect all information.

Hazardous material spills and discoveries must be reported immediately to the following Emergency Contacts:

STEP	FIRST EMERGENCY CONTACT	BACK-UP EMERGENCY CONTACT (if first contact not available)
Step 1 <u>Employee or Volunteer:</u> First on the scene: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacts Forest Dispatch • Secures area • Fills out Incident Report forms • Stays on-site until released by Haz Mat Coordinator 	<u>Forest Dispatch Office:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone #: (406) 587-6921 • or 24 hr. #: (800) 326-2454 • Radio Freq: Gallatin NF East Primary 171.5500 (123.0) West Primary 164.8250 (123.0) 	<u>911 Operator:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone #: 911
Step 2 <u>Forest Dispatch:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Forest Haz Mat Coordinator* 	<u>Forest Haz Mat Coordinator*:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dale White Work: (406) 587-6752 Home: Cell: If not available, contact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Donch – Forest Safety Officer Work: (406) 587-6767 Home: (406) Cell: (406) 	<u>Regional Haz Mat Coordinator:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob Kirkpatrick Work (406) 329-3307 • Bob Wintergerst Work (406) 329-3036
Step 3 <u>Forest Haz Mat Coordinator:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate Notification and Clean-up 	Determine extent of emergency and make notifications. <u>Clean Up Contractor/Individuals</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob Kirkpatrick work (329-3307) • and either: MCS Environmental (406) 728-7755 or Envirocon Inc (303) 215-0187 	<u>Clean Up Contractor/Individuals</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob Wintergerst work (406) 329-3036 • and either: MCS Environmental (406) 728-7755 or Envirocon Inc (303) 215-0187

Response Actions and Precautions

In addition to reporting an emergency spill to dispatch, employees should take the following actions and precautions.

Response Action:

Within limits, Forest Service employee(s) may provide necessary and immediate response actions until further direction is provided by the Forest Haz Mat Coordinator or Emergency Response personnel.

- Public warning and crowd control.
- Retrieval of appropriate information for reporting purposes.
- Additionally, and only after verification of the type of hazardous material involved and its associated hazards, a Forest Service employee(s) may take actions including:
 - i. Rescue of persons in imminent danger.
 - ii. Limited action to mitigate the consequences of the emergency, such as using a spill kit to contain a spill.
- Under no condition shall a Forest Service employee(s):
 - i. Place themselves or others in imminent danger.
 - ii. Perform or direct actions that will incur liability for the Forest Service.

If there is any question that the emergency may constitute a threat to personal safety, limit your response to public warning and reporting of the incident.

Precautions:

When approaching the scene of an accident involving any cargo, or other known or suspected hazardous materials emergency including oil spills:

- Approach incident from an upwind, uphill, upstream direction, if possible.
- Move and keep people away from the incident scene.
- Do not walk into or touch any spilled material.
- Avoid inhaling fumes, smoke, and vapors even if no hazardous materials are involved.
- Do not assume that gases or vapors are harmless because of lack of smell.
- Do not smoke, and remove all ignition sources.

NOTE: It is Forest Service policy NOT to use FS employees or equipment for "hands-on" cleanup of hazardous materials. Only trained personnel can contain spills within the limits of their training.

SPILL/DISCOVERY INFORMATION FORM (Optional)

1. Name of individual reporting spill: _____
Phone number: _____
 2. Date and time of: Release/Discovery: _____
Reported: _____
Duration of release: _____
 3. Location: (Include state, county, route, milepost, etc) _____

 4. Chemical name: _____
 - a. Chemical identification number _____
 - b. Other chemical data _____Note: for transportation related incidents, this information may be available from the driver, placards on the vehicle, and/or shipping paper.
 5. Noted characteristics of release(e.g. smell, fumes, etc) _____

 6. Known health risks _____

 7. Appropriate precaution if known _____

 8. Source and cause of release _____

 9. Number and type of injuries _____

 10. Potential threat to health and environment _____

 11. Estimate of quantity released: _____ gallons
Quantity reaching water: _____ gallons
Name of affected watercourse and distance to source of spill: _____

 12. For transportation incident, name and address of carrier: _____

- Railcar or truck number: _____

Corrective/Preventive Action Request Form

For any emergency spill or discovery, the Forest Haz Mat Coordinator fills out the [Corrective/Preventive Action Request Form](#) and submits it to the EMS Representative. Annually at the Management Review, the Forest Leadership Team reviews the response procedures and determines suggestions for improvement.

Spill/Discovery Training and Preparedness

Training

All employees will become aware of their responsibility to report hazardous materials spills during the annual EMS training.

Employees who either manage building facilities or transport or transfer hazardous materials or petroleum products will attend annual Spill Drill training.

Any operation that uses or transports fuel, oil, or pesticides has the potential for spills. The following are minimum requirements:

Material Safety Data Sheets:

- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) shall be present for the chemical being used or transported. These are available from the manufacturer or over the internet.

Equipment/Machinery/Vehicles Carrying Auxiliary Fuel:

- Spill kits appropriate to type of spills that could take place must be present in vehicle and in equipment.
- Exemption: Timber Sale Purchasers and their employees or subcontractors follow timber sale contract provisions.

Stationary Fuel Storage and Dispensing Tanks:

- Spill kits appropriate to the volume of stored fuel must be present at points where fuel is dispensed.

Storage and Mixing Tanks for Pesticides:

- Spill kits appropriate to the maximum capacity of mixing tanks for pesticides must be present at points where material is batched or transferred from one tank to another.
- Spill kits appropriate to the volume and toxicity of material stored must be present where pesticides are stored.

WILDLAND FIRE

Wildland fires must be reported immediately to the following:

	DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS call or radio	AFTER HOURS call
Reporting Individual call Dispatch Office:	<u>Forest Dispatch Office:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone #: (406) 587-6921 • or 24 hr. #: (800)) 326-2454 • Radio Freq: Gallatin NF East Primary 171.5500 (123.0) West Primary 164.8250 (123.0) • 	<u>Forest Dispatch 24 hr #:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone #: (800) 326-2454+ or <u>911 Operator:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone #: 911

Wildland Fire Action Steps

NOTE: The US Forest Service has a well established, regimented, and sophisticated wildland fire training and response program. All Forests and Grasslands of Region 1 follow the fire training and wildland fire incident procedures. It is outside the scope of this emergency response plan to reiterate those procedures. The focus of this emergency response plan is to identify the immediate reporting and response procedures by individuals outside the fire organization.

If an incident occurs *where a Forest Service employee, contractor, partner, or volunteer crew is working in the same general area:*

1. **Stop Operations.** Notify your supervisor and the rest of the crew.
2. **Immediately report the fire.** See Emergency Contacts in the box above for reporting information.
 - a. If Forest Service radio communication is possible at your location, call in the fire location to the Dispatch Office. The person reporting the fire will remain available by radio in order to communicate details of the fire.
 - b. If a Forest Service radio is not available, use whatever means available to report the fire.

Initial information needed when a wildland fire is discovered and reported:

1. Location of the fire: _____
2. Nature of the fire behavior: _____
3. Estimated size of the fire in acres: _____
4. Who else has been notified: _____
5. Initial response, if any: _____
6. Name of person reporting fire: _____
and their Phone number: _____

Incident Reporting:

Annually, the Forest Fire Management Officer in coordination with the EMS Representative will review After Action Reviews and Wildland Fire Reports to determine if any changes to the EMS Wildland Fire action steps procedure discussed above need to be made.